

The Nurseries, York.

4-1-1883.

My dear D^r Gray

I am very much obliged for the little plants, so kindly sent. They arrived safely, & look fairly well. It is quite likely, that we may ask Mr Barrett to send more.

But just now my time & thoughts are closely occupied with the prospective journey of my wife & our two sons to the South of France. Willie - the younger - is consumptive; & though we trust not beyond the range of recovery, still it is a formidable case.

My Daughter & I purpose following them a few weeks later. Should Willie be favoured to improve, we hope to return home in May.

I have to thank you also for the two interesting pamphlets sent. Had I leisure at present, I should like to tell you a few of my ideas connected with the "Darwinian Theory"; (which does not alarm me in the way it does some!), but I must refrain at present.

We feel so sorry to hear of your accident, which must have been very painful & trying. Such things make one feel both how great

How uncertain are the
blessings of health & sound-
ness!

I must not add more than
a message of very kind
remembrance to Mrs Gray*
& yourself from all our
circle.

Yours very truly
D^r Backhouse

* & especially from Mrs B.,
for the pretty card & good
wishes, ^{sent for her. 'planned'} which she heartily
reciprocates.